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T H E
R O C E E D I N G S
O N T H E
T R I A L S
O F T H E
CONSPIRATORS against the L I F E
O F T H E
I N G of P O R T U G A L;

With their Several C O N F E S S I O N S, &c.

B E I N G

Authentic Narrative of the Examinations, Process, Trials, and Executions of the Conspirators against the Life of His Most Faithful Majesty the King of Portugal.

Causes of the Conspiracy particularly specified, and traced to their Fountain-head.

Reasons why so many of the Nobility were concerned in it: And the Practices of the *Jesuits* in this horrible Design, detected and exposed.

Confessions of the Criminals on the Rack.

Solicitor's Speech to them immediately before passing of Sentence.

The Sentence pronounced, declaring the particular Death and Punishment each was to suffer.

The *Portuguese* Method of Proceedings in Capital Offences.

The several Kinds of Torture to extort Confession, described.

The Marchioness *de Tavora's* affecting Interview with her Sons the Day before their Execution.

The Prisoners Dying Behaviour.

The Original of the Differences between the Crown and the Nobility.

The Behaviour and Practice of the *Jesuits*, from their first Institution to the present Time.

L O N D O N :

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M DCC LIX.

[Price One Shilling.]

THE
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TRIALS



THE
PROCEEDINGS
ON THE
TRIALS
OF THE

Conspirators against the LIFE of the King of
Portugal; with their several Confessions, &c.

VER since Government was placed in the Hands of Kings, their Persons have been held sacred and inviolable, their Majesty has been look'd upon with Awe and Reverence, and venerated by every from the highest to the lowest, profound Submission and Regard. And nces too frequently forget the Character which they ought to sustain, and instead for the Good of their People, are but

too apt to oppress and tyrannize over them; yet loyal Subjects will rather seek Redress of their Grievances by humble Remonstrance and submissive Petitions, than by Combinations and Conspiracies, endeavour to obtain that by Violence, which perhaps by gentler Methods they might procure with a good Grace. The sacred History informs us, that *David*, under all his unprovoked Persecutions from *Saul*, would never lift his Hand against the Lord's Anointed, nor offer to do himself Justice by attempting his Life, tho' it was more than once in his Power, but patiently waited

waited the Issues of Providence, which he was firmly persuaded would appear to his Advantage in the End.

'Tis true, the Politicks of these latter Ages wear a very different Aspect from those of the Primitive, especially in those Countries where Popery prevails; and even Religion itself, or rather a false and furious Zeal disguised under that beautiful and benevolent Form, has been productive of Principles and Practices quite abhorrent to the meek Spirit of the Gospel: Witness the Assassinations of *Henry III.* and *IV.* of *France*, the first by a Friar, the latter by a Jesuit: Witness the innumerable Conspiracies of the Jesuits and Friars against the Life of *Queen Elizabeth* of *England*; and indeed the Life of a Prince, tho' of their own Profession, is scarce ever safe, if he happens to counteract their ambitious Projects, or attempts to bring them within the Bounds of Reason and Moderation.

The late Attempt on the Life of the King of *Portugal*, atrocious and villainous as it was, carries so many Signatures of the Revenge inherent to the Fraternity of *Loyola*, that they will find it very difficult to persuade the World that they had no Hand in it. They have indeed endeavour'd to justify themselves at *Rome*, and it's highly probable they will be acquitted in a Court, where the Judges are too much interested in the Cause, to determine impartially. But should the Suspicions now entertain'd against them be grounded upon Facts too strongly attested to admit of a Denial, all the Declarations the Court of *Rome* shall publish in their Favour will never clear them in the Judgment and Opinion of the unprejudiced Part of Mankind. But should this Piece of Villainy, lately acted in *Portugal*, proceed from other Causes, and be justly imputed to the Ambition or private Revenge of some disaffected Grandees, far be it from us to lay it at the Door of the Jesuits: No, let the Saddle be laid upon the right Horse; neither is it Justice, that a Society

of Men, how bad soever their character may be, should suffer for the sake of others. But 'tis Time to proceed. Account we propose to give of this Affair; which, as it is a Concern of the highest Importance, both to *Princes* and *Subjects*, ought to be set in the clearest Relation, but what is attested by the unquestionable Authority.

The Conspiracy seems to have been artfully managed; for tho', it's said upwards of three hundred Persons were concern'd in it, and several Women among them, it does not appear that the Court had any Intimation of it, till the very Moment it was put in Execution; the Manner of which was thus:

On the 3d of *September* 1758, the most Faithful Majesty the King of *Portugal*, was, about Ten o'Clock at Night, returning from his Country-House called *de Mida*, to his Palace at *Belleville*. He was in Company of a Nobleman of the first Rank, he was attacked in a narrow Street, about Three Quarters of an English Mile from that Place, by several armed Men in Disguise; one of them suddenly ran from behind some Trees, discharged a Pistol full on the Back of the King, which the King was dangerously wounded in the Arm, and the Nobleman in several Places of his Body. They had however the good Sense of Mind to fall forward into the Bottom of a Carriage; and it was well they did, for their Death had been inevitable; for the instant three more Blunderbusses were discharged at once, which pierc'd the upper Part of the Calash on every Side, kill'd the Nobleman, and wounded the Postilion and the Mules. After which, the Perpetrators, imagining they had effectually done their business, made off undiscover'd; as they easily do, his Majesty having none of his Guards Retinue about him, nor even a Footman.

which is something extraordinary, considering how much the *Portuguese* themselves in Pomp and Equipage.

Report however of so many Pieces almost at once soon brought People to know the Meaning of it. But how their Astonishment to see their King, as they thought, for he really fainted with Loss of Blood. In short, it was above an Hour before a Litter could be got, with Assistance, to convey his Majesty to his Palace, where he was instantly put to bed, and his Physicians sent for.

is Mr. Hughes's Account; but that by Authority, is as follows, That *Masfarenbas* (Duke d' Aveiro,) as he turned the Corner of the Garden de *Alfama* out from under an Arch, and intended to discharge a Blunderbuss at the Coachman, but it only flash'd in the Pan; the Coachman seeing, and apprehending himself in Danger, push'd on the Mules to fly; and indeed had the Coachman fled, it was impossible for the King to escape. Upon which *Antony Alvarez* and *Joseph Policarp*, the Duke's two Bravoes, put his Horses into a Gallop, and coming to the Carriage, fired their Blunderbusses back of it, which made several dangerous Wounds and Dilacerations in his Majesty's Arm, from the right Shoulder down to the Elbow on the Outside, and likewise on the inward Part, with several Contusions on the Neck, and a great Number of Slugs extracted from them all.

His Majesty being thus grievously wounded, at the same Moment considering that if he proceeded on the Way he was going, he must leave his chief Surgeon behind him, he stopped at *Junqueira*, he ordered his Coachman to turn back to the House of the said Duke, which was done, and his Wounds were dressed. And happy it was for the King that he took this prudent Step; for had he proceeded

in his usual Route to the Palace, he must have been inevitably destroyed; for the Conspirators had laid several Ambushes for him, that in Case he escaped the first he might fall into the Hands of the next, and so on, till they had made sure of him.

The Duke, upon his Blunderbuss missing Fire, knock'd it against the Stones, venting his Passion in these execrable Words, *Damnation seize thee! when I want thee thou art of no Use to me.* And the Marquis de *Tavora*, doubting whether the Shot had taken Effect; *No Matter*, replied the Duke, *if he is not dead, he shall die.*

It farther appeared upon the Trial, that the two Ruffians, who fired at the King's Calash, were *Antony Alvarez Ferreira*, and his Brother-in-law *Joseph Policarp de Azevedo*, the first was Keeper of the Wardrobe to the Duke d' Aveiro, and engaged the other to be his Associate in this bloody Enterprize; for which the Conspirators gave them forty Moidores as a Reward.

It being late at Night, the People of *Lisbon* were not appriz'd, nor was it publicly known the next Morning; and those few who knew it, only mention'd it in a Whisper to a Friend or Neighbour. But about Twelve o'Clock at Noon a Proclamation was publish'd, signifying that the Government of the Kingdom was vested in a Regency, prohibiting all Conversation about public Affairs.

Upon this it was generally believed that the King was dead, tho' by what Means, or in what Manner, was variously reported. Some said he had had a Fall in his Palace, whereby he had received so much Hurt as to confine him to his Bed. These different Reports prevail'd till the King was out of Danger, when the Court became less cautious, and the Public, being rid of their Fears, resum'd its usual Cheerfulness.

But the Conduct of the Court, at this critical Juncture, deserves an especial Remark. The Government seem'd under no Manner of Concern to come to the Bottom of this Affair; not a Syllable was mention'd about the Conspirators, nor any Enquiry whether it was a Conspiracy against the King, or a Mistake of some Highwaymen that did not know the King's Equipage. But tho' such a profound Silence reign'd among the Ministry, yet it was observ'd that a large Body of Troops were drawing towards the Metropolis, and that there was a general Change of the Officers of the Army. But what seems the most surprizing is, that the Conspirators themselves, tho' they saw these Movements, they were so far from taking the Alarm, that it was observ'd that the Duke *d'Aveiro* was oftner at Court, and more solicitous in enquiring after his Majesty's Health, than any other Nobleman.

In this secret and reserved Manner Matters were carried on for above three Months, that is, from the 3d of *September* when the horrid Fact was perpetrated, till the 13th of *December*; when the Court having got sufficient Information of the whole Conspiracy began to seize the Conspirators; which was done in this Manner:

The King had for some Time appear'd in Public, and the People gave many Testimonials of their Joy in seeing him so well recover'd. The *English* Factory in particular, signaliz'd their Respect for his Majesty, by giving a Ball, to which most of the *Portuguese* Nobility were invited, among whom were the Duke *d'Aveiro*, his Dutcheß, and Son. About One o'Clock in the Morning the Company broke up, and as Precedence is very much observ'd in *Portugal*, the Duke went out first. When others went to the outward Door, in order to go Home, they were not suffer'd to pass; and presently 'twas observ'd, that all the Avenues were full of armed Troops. As every Body was ignorant of the Cause, it occasion'd a general Consternation. However this did

not continue long, for it was soon known the Duke *d'Aveiro*, his Dutcheß, and Son, were taken up for a Conspiracy against the King, and that Nobody was permitted to go out till they were safely convey'd to Prison.

The whole Scheme was very artfully contriv'd; for, during the Continuance of the Ball, the Troops were brought into the Houses of the Conspirators surround their Friends and Domesticks seized, even the youngest Child, and meanest Servant.

The Dutcheß, it's said, on her Examination was terrified at the Apprehension of the due Punishment of the Rack in Case she could not be obstinate in her Denial, readily confess'd her Guilt, but both the Duke and his Son stood out to their Innocence, till being put to the Rack (which they underwent six Times) they confess'd the whole Conspiracy from Point to Point.

Whoever has read the History of the *Inquisition*, cannot be at a Loss to conceive the dreadful Pains and Tortures that these unfortunate Wretches were made to undergo. Some of the Tortures inflicted on this Occasion were, probably, similar to, if not the same as those practis'd by this Bloody Tribunal. I hope it will be no disagreeable Digression to describe some of them.

The first, which is reckon'd the most cruel of them all, is what they call *Squassado*, which is thus inflicted. Four Cords are brought over four Pullies at each End of the Rack, by which the Sufferer is hoisted up by his feet behind him to the Cieling, from whence on a sudden Let-go, he falls more than twenty Feet to the Ground, whereby all his Bones are dislocated. When he has hung some Time, by another sudden Jerk, he is let fall to the Ground.

Another Torture is this: At the End of a Room is a Place inclosed like a Closet, where the Inquisitor and Notary sit at a Table, and the

monishes the Person to speak the before the Torments begin. If he refuses the Executioner puts a Linen Garment on his Body, and draws it so very close on him, as to squeeze him almost to Death. When he is just dying, they slacken at once the Garment, and when he begins to recover, the sudden Alteration puts him to the most grievous Anguish and Pain.

If he still continues obstinate, they tie his Arms so very tight with small Cords, as the Extremities of them swell very much, and the Blood to spin out from under his Nails. Then he is placed against the Wall, and upon a little Bench. Into the Wall are fixed little Iron Pullies, thro' which Ropes are run, and tied round his Body in several Places, especially his Arms and Legs. The Executioner drawing these Ropes with the greatest Violence, fastens his Body to the Wall, and his Hands and Feet, especially his Hands and Toes, being bound so straightly together, it puts him to the most exquisite Torment. Of a sudden the Bench is drawn from under him, so that the whole Weight of his Body hangs without any Support.

This is succeeded by another Torture. Another Person is brought like a Ladder, of two upper Pieces, with five wooden cross Bars between them. This is placed before him, and with a sudden Motion struck against his Body with great Violence, so that he receives each of them at once five violent Strokes, and is put to the most intolerable Anguish.

Another Exercise is, the Torturer ties a Rope about the Sufferer's Waist, and then another about his own Body, which is covered with Leather, to prevent hurting himself. Then falling backwards, and putting his Feet against the Wall, he draws them with all his Force, till they cut thro' the Flesh even to the Bones.

Another Kind of Torture is this: There is a wooden Bench, which they call the Wooden Horse, made hollow like a Trough, so as to contain a Man lying on his Back at full Length; about the Middle of which there is a round Bar laid across, upon which the Back of the Person is placed, so that he lies upon the Bar instead of being let into the Bottom of the Trough, with his Feet much higher than his Head. As he is lying in this Posture, his Arms, Thighs, and Shins, are tied round with small Cords or Strings, which being drawn hard, and placed at little Distances from each other, cut in to the very Bones, so as no longer to be discerned. Besides this, the Torturer throws over his Mouth and Nostrils a Linen Cloth, so that he is scarce able to breathe, and in the mean while, a Stream of Water like a Thread, not Drop by Drop, falls from on high upon the Cloth, and sinks it to the Bottom of his Throat, so that there is no Possibility of breathing, his Mouth being stopped with Water, and his Nostrils with the Cloth, so that the Wretch is in the same Agony as Persons ready to die, and breathing their last. When the Cloth is drawn out of the Throat, it is as if his Bowels were pulling thro' his Mouth.

There is another Kind of Torture, which they call the *Fire*. They order a large Chafin-dish, full of lighted Charcoal, to be brought in and held close to the Sides of the tortured Person's Feet, greased over with Lard, that so the Heat of the Fire may the more easily pierce through them.

I could mention several other Kinds of Tortures that are inflicted on the poor Creatures that are so unhappy as to fall into the Hands of these merciless Inquisitors; but I would not detain the Reader upon so disagreeable a Subject; and what I have here mention'd is only to shew, by what Methods, under arbitrary Governments, Offenders are compelled to accuse themselves. For Racks and Tortures, are not peculiar to the Holy Office, but are made Use of by Ministers of Civil Justice,

to extort Confessions from unhappy Delinquents. But to return from this Digression.

When the Duke was put to the Rack he confess'd, that the Reason of his embarking in this diabolical Scheme, was Resentment which he had conceived on the following Occasion: His Uncle *Don Miguel de Monezes* was, in such Favour with the late King, that his present Majesty, then Prince, was not a little jealous of his Power. And as Favourites are apt to be presumptuous, in some Conferences between the Prince and him, in which his Highness took him pretty roundly to Task for many Things, wherein he thought he acted with more Prerogative than was fit for a Subject to assume; the Minister recriminated, and in short paved the Way to his own Ruin.

When the present King therefore came to the Crown, one of the first Things he did was to revenge himself on the Insolence of *Don Miguel*, whom he banished to the Coast of *Africa*.

In vain his Friends solicited his Return; the King was inexorable; till about three Years ago, when some Papers, relative to his late Administration, being to be examin'd, on a strict Scrutiny, it was thought there was Matter of such a high Nature against him, for which his Life ought to be answerable. Upon which he was recall'd, imprison'd, and tried; but the Facts alledged were so weakly supported, that it was thought impolitic to condemn him: But his Majesty's Displeasure continuing, he was remanded back to his former Place of Exile, and his Friends and Family were forbid to correspond with him. This the Duke profess'd to be the sole Motive that engaged the House *d' Aveiro* in this bloody Conspiracy; as thinking it a Point of Honour to revenge an Affront, tho' only imaginary, agreeable to the Custom of the *Portuguese*, who never consider either the Enormity of the Crime, or the Danger of the Enterprize, so they can but accomplish their Revenge.

The Confession of the Duke's much to the same Effect with that of the others, acknowledging that he was free Consultation with the Conspirators, his Designs, and agreed with them in the Execution.

Several others likewise underwent the Verity of the Rack, as the Marquis *d' Aveiro* and his three Sons, and his Son-in-law Count *d' Attouguia*, who all confessed they were concern'd in the Plot to assassinate the King, in Resentment of the pretended Murder of the Duke *d' Aveiro's* Uncle, *Don Miguel de Monezes*.

The authorized Account calls this the Duke's, *F. Gaspar da Incarnação*, gives this further Reason of the Duke's placable Hatred to the King, that he had put a Stop to the Celebration of the Marriage which the Duke had contracted with his Son the Marquis of *Gouvea* and *Margaret de Lorena*, Sister to the Duke of *Cadaval*, with a Design to blend his blood with that House, the present Lord of which was a Minor and unmarried, and to prevent the Marriage the said Criminal had contrived and fomented Law Suits and Executions against him, thereby to put him to such expence as might deprive him of his marriage in a Manner suitable to the Dignity of the illustrious House of *Cadaval*.

It appears likewise, from the same Account, that the said Criminal was very industrious in seducing to his own Party all such as he was disaffected to his Majesty, and to draw them farther from the Royal Service by promising them his own treacherous and dissipated Principles; and flattering himself, and proving the Discourse of others telling him that he wanted no other Eminence than the King himself.

Another Charge against the Criminal is, that, notwithstanding the open and de-

him and the Jesuits, during the
of his said Uncle *F. Gaspar*
and even after the Death of
F. Gaspar; yet no sooner were these
dismissed from their Offices of con-
Majesties and the Royal Family,
utterly forbidden, all Access to Court,
of the Rebellions and open Wars
and *Maranhao*, in Defiance and
of his Majesty's Authority, than
reconcil'd himself to the said
and join'd in a strict Union and In-
with them. In Consequence of which
conferences were held between them,
was contrived a Change of the Go-
and the Death of the King, the
declaring it as their Opinion, that
should perpetrate the said Parricide
not be guilty of the least Sin.

farther alledged against the said
that he and his Confederates the
had drawn the Marchioness *de Tavora*
pernicious Schemes, notwithstanding
Aversion, the jarring Interests and
Jealousy which had for a long Time
between her and the Criminal, and
standing all the Attempts he made,
the Marquis *Francis Affizes de Tavora*
the Indies, to deprive him of the
of *Margaride* and the hereditary
of his House.

Duke *d'Aveiro* was Grand Master of
the Household, but by his Treason for-
all the Privileges, Honours, and Im-
which he possess'd in Right of his
and was consider'd as the vilest
The other noble Conspirators,
the Facts were proved, were de-
and treated in the same ignominious

Duke with his Son, and the Marquis
with his three Sons, and his Son-
the Count *d'Attougia*, were confin'd in
at *Belem*, and loaded with Irons.

Others, who were less-guilty, were treated
with less Rigour. Some of them were al-
low'd their ordinary Domesticks, and were
neither guarded nor iron'd. *Don Manuel*
de Cultieris, and *Antonio de Cesto* were
sent to St. *John's* Tower. The Dutches
d'Aveiro with her Daughters were con-
fin'd in the Convent *de Madre de Dios*. The
old Marchioness *de Tavora* was closely con-
fin'd in the Convent *De Grelles* till within two
Days of her Execution, and then brought to the
Castle where her Husband and Sons were, and
permitted to see them, in Presence of their
Confessor, not as a Favour, or that the Visit
might afford her any Consolation in taking her
last Farewel of her Children, but rather to ag-
gravate her Calamity by seeing those Objects
whose Welfare ought to have been as dear to
her as her own Soul, utterly ruin'd and undone
by her Pride and Ambition. And indeed this
Meeting had the design'd Effect: For no
sooner was she come into their Presence, but
she fell into the most bitter Agonies that it is
possible for the Tongue to express or the Heart
to conceive. She burst out into the most vio-
lent Exclamations against the Rigour of her
Destiny which had ingulph'd her in such an
Abyss of Miseries. She wept, she tore her
Hair, and wrung her Hands, and in broken, un-
connected Sentences lamented her own and
her Families Misfortunes.—Good God! said
she, Is this the End of all my touring Hopes
and ambitious Projects? It was Pride that pre-
cipitated *Lucifer* from Heaven with all his
rebel Angels, whom he sacrilegiously seduc'd
from their Allegiance to their Omnipotent So-
vereign; and whar, but Pride, has flung you
my dear Husband, you my dear beloved
Children, together with my miserable Self,
from a State of Happiness and Independency,
into the most doleful and forlorn Condition
that it is possible for the most abject Wretches
of Human Kind to fall into!

O! my dear Children, can you forgive the
Injuries I have done you? Can you forbear
cursing me in your Heart, as the detestable
Au-

Author of all those cruel and inhuman Tortures which you have and must feel? O that I could suffer them all myself, and all the dreadful agonizing Pains which are just ready to be inflicted on you, on Condition that you might be freed from them, for I deserv'd them all. But vain is my Wish! You must yourselves, we must all pass thro' the fiery Trial; a Trial attended with such a formidable Train of Instruments of Death and Cruelty, that the very Thoughts of them is enough to confound one's Senses, and shock the very Frame of our Beings; how horrible then, how exquisitely penetrating must these Pains be, when every Nerve, every Vessel of the Body, shall feel the most excruciating Torments that they are capable of sustaining!

O ye cursed Jesuits, who by your delusive Wiles and fallacious Arguments first seduced me into your pernicious Schemes. You took me on my weak Side, my Pride and Ambition, and so too easily led me Captive at your Pleasure: Are these the Fruits of your Sanctity, your pious Professions? You promis'd to indemnify us from the Sin, but can you free us from the Punishment? O ye most execrable Villains! Ye Instruments of Hell, who have the Art to veil the most atrocious Crimes with the most pious Pretences! May the just Vengeance of Heaven pursue your whole Fraternity, expose your pious Frauds to the Derision and Contempt of all Mankind; may your Endeavours to enslave Mankind be recompensed with the Gallies; and may all those Evils which you have so liberally dealt to others, infinitely more deserving than yourselves, be retaliated ten-fold into your own Bosoms; and when you descend to the infernal Regions to receive the just Rewards for the important Services you have done the Devil in this World, may the hottest Place in that fiery Lake be your everlasting Portion!

Here her Spirits fail'd her, and she sunk down under the tremendous Load of Horror, Grief, and Resentment, which overpower'd her Soul, and render'd her incapable of giving a full Vent to her horrible Execrations.

Her Sons however, notwithstanding their own miserable Circumstances, were most deeply afflicted to see their Mother in so deplorable a Condition, and administer'd Help they could both by Words and Actions. They begg'd that she would not lay so heavy a Load on her Heart the Afflictions which God in his Providence, and for their own Sins, had thought fit to inflict upon them; that for their Parts, they were ready, and hoped they might suffer, with Patience and Fortitude become good Christians, the Tortures and Deaths were prepared for them; and much more said to the same Purpose to comfort and support her Soul under that Load of Sorrows which they saw her overwhelm'd.

The Confessor, who stood by, and saw this most dolorous and affecting Scene, was no longer able to bear the deep Impression made on his Soul, and therefore put an End to it, by leading her away to the Prison appointed for her.

The Marchioness of Tavora having before hinted) enter'd into this detestable Confederacy, endeavour'd to persuade her Friends and Acquaintance, that *Gabriel de Grijalva*, a Jesuit, was a Man of such a moral Life, that he was justly reputed a Saint, in which she was so fully convinced, that she had put herself wholly under his Direction and Guidance; the Consequence of which was that she held many secret Meetings and Conferences at her own House, where Scandals and Rumours were broached against the King's Dignity, and the present Government; and Treacheries were contrived and executed against the Life of their Sovereign; and for the same detestable Purposes, she had been present at several Plottings at the House of the Duke d'Aveiro; that the said Marchioness had made herself one of the three Ringleaders of this unnatural and execrable Conspiracy, and used her utmost Endeavours to draw others into it, and actually contributed to the death of sixteen Moidores, as her Part, to be

Reward to the infamous Ruffians who undertaken to shoot his Majesty.

The said Marchioness likewise, by her Influence, and the Authority which she assumed, prevailed on her Husband, the Marquis *Francis Affizes de Tavora*, her Sons, her Daughters, Son-in-law, Brother-in-law, and many others as she could influence, to join in the Conspiracy.

The Marquis *Francis Affizes de Tavora*, was allur'd into this Conspiracy by the Influence of his Wife, the Duke *d'Aveiro*, the Jesuits, permitted the Conspirators to hold their diabolical Consultations at his House, he was also present at the pernicious Conferences held at the House of the Duke *d'Aveiro*; gave twelve Moidores, as his Reward, of the infamous Reward to be given to the Assassins; that immediately after the Conspiracy was committed he was declared to be one of the Accomplices; that he was actually present at the Ambushes laid on that unfortunate Night, and was seen retiring, and after discoursing with the other Accomplices, he was concerned in the same Crime.

Another Accomplice in the Conspiracy was *Francis Bernard de Tavora*, who had been prevailed upon by the Marchioness his Wife, to be a Partaker in the Crime; it was proved that he was present at most of the Conferences; offer'd Arms and Horses to those who were to undertake it; that he was actually assisted at the Ambushes the Night when his Majesty was way-laid; and that after the Insult, he was present at the Meeting held at the Duke *d'Aveiro's* House.

Another of these Confederates was Don *Alfonso de Ataide*, Count of *Atouguia*, Son-in-law to the Marquis and Marchioness *de Tavora*; it being proved, that he and his Wife were every Night at these infernal Cabals, in the House of their Father

and Mother-in-law, and embraced the detestable Doctrines of the Jesuits, suggested by *Gabriel Malagrida*, *John de Matos*, and *John Alexandre*; that he contributed eight Moidores towards rewarding the Assassins, and was an Associate in way-laying his Majesty on that fatal Night.

Another of these Traitors was *Joseph-Maria de Tavora*, Adjutant of the Military Orders of the Marquis *de Tavora* his Father; who, tho' but a Youth, was perverted by his Mother the Marchioness, to make one in the seditious Cabals that were held at her House, and assisted at the Ambushes that were laid to destroy his Majesty on the Night of the 3d of *September*; concurred with the rest of the Confederates in the Crimes; and was at the Meeting afterwards at the Duke of *Aveiro's*, when the wonderful Escape of his Majesty being mention'd, he expressed himself in this savage Manner, *Alas! the Man ought not to have escaped.*

Another who join'd in this Conspiracy was *Blaise Joseph Romeiro*, who had lived with the Marquis *de Tavora*, ever since the Year 1749, had been in the *Indies* with him, and attended him back, but had since served the Marquis *Lewis Bernard de Tavora*, was a Corporal in his Company, and Steward of his Household; that he was trusted with the Secrets of the Cabals; led the three Horses that were order'd to be saddled and forwarded to the Grounds where the Scene of Action was laid, and was present in the Ambushes that were posted to way-lay his Majesty.

The two bloody Assassins, who were employ'd to execute the Tragedy, namely, *Antony Alvarez Ferreira* and *Joseph Policarp*, we have already given an Account of, and therefore shall say no more of them at present.

There were likewise two others concerned in this Conspiracy, but of inferior Degree,

Degree, viz. *Emanuel Alvarez Ferreira*, Brother to *Antony Alvarez*, and *John Michael* a Page, both of them tried and found guilty.

In what Manner the Process against the Conspirators was carried on is not known. For the Proceedings against State Offenders are managed with such Secrecy, that nothing is divulged till the whole Process is finished and Sentence pronounced, which only is published; quite unlike the Judicial Proceedings in *England*, where the Courts are all open, and the Trials heard by any one that has a Mind. Perhaps, therefore, it may not be an improbable Supposition, that these State Trials are managed in a Manner not much unlike those in the *Inquisition*, where the Witness gives his Evidence in private before the Inquisitors, but is never brought to face the Prisoner, who is left to guess at his Accuser, and yet required to answer peremptorily to his Charge, which if he refuses, he is put to the Rack, and must confess himself guilty, or suffer a great Variety of Torments: But whether the Proceedings of the State against Prisoners committed for High Treason are exactly the same, I cannot pretend to affirm.

But tho' the Prisoners are not there tried by their Peers or Juries, yet there is a certain Formality of Justice observed; for on this Occasion, a Council was appointed by the King to pass Sentence on the Prisoners, composed of the three Secretaries of State, the Person acting as Chief Justice in the room of the Duke of *Alaforens*, who was indisposed, and five other Judges, the Solicitor for the Crown being present.

The Court being open'd, the Prisoners were set to the Bar, namely, *Joseph Mascarenbas*, late Duke d' *Aveiro*; Lady *Eleanor de Tavora*, late Marchioness of that Title; *Francis Affizes de Tavora*, late Marquis of the said Title; *Lewis Bernard de Tavora*, late Marquis of the same Title; Don *Jerome de Ataide*, late Count of *Aronguia*; *Joseph-Maria de*

Tavora, late Adjutant of the Militia of the Marquis his Father; *Blas Romeiro*, Corporal in the Company commanded by the Criminal *Lewis-Bernard Tavora*; *Antony Alvarez Ferreira*; *Joseph* having absconded was not present; *Emanuel Alvarez Ferreira*, Keeper of the Wardrobe to the *Joseph Mascarenbas*, and *Joseph Michael* tending Page to the same Criminal.

The Solicitor for the Crown then laid before the Court the Depositions of the Witnesses, had given Evidence of the Facts with which the Criminals were charged; the Articles of their Crimes supported and confirmed by their several Confessions; and their Answers to the several Articles of their Charge.

It must be observed, that the Depositions of the Witnesses, and the Examination of the Prisoners, were taken before the King's Council, and so were their Defences, and their Confessions were made upon the Rack, in Writing from their Mouths, and not

This being premis'd, it follows, that the High Court of Judicature was summoned to sit in Judgment upon the Criminals, the Process read, and to pass Sentence accordingly. The Solicitor therefore having inform'd the Court of the Proceedings, and the Process being carried on against the Prisoners, he address'd himself to them in particular, and endeavour'd to convince them of the Guilt of their Crimes.

He expatiated largely on the horror of Assassination in general, a Crime so repugnant to the Laws both of God and Man, and to the Laws of every Nation in the World, *Christians*, and *Pagans*, look on those who are guilty of it as Monsters in Nature, and inflict on them the most exquisite Tortures that have ever been invented. But when Villains are so abandoned as to attempt the Life of their Prince in the most unguarded Hours, when, trusting

Fidelity of his Subjects, which he made it his chief Study to deserve of Beneficence and Goodness, was his Guards, or even a Footman to attack; I say, to way-lay and assault him with various Arms of Destruction, must be the Effects of a most diabolical Spirit which led these Wretches, and transported them to commit so bloody a Deed.

you, the three Ringleaders of this Enterprize, what can be said in your favour, either to palliate your Offence or mitigate your Doom? You are ennobled by Birth, and frequently should be the Support, as your Country receives its Lustre, to the Crown. How absurd and preposterous then is it in you, to be so far from the true Principles of Honour, as to seek to ruin that from which you derive your Honours and Dignities? Have you no Reverence for the sacred Majesty of that God, whom God requires you to honour next to himself, especially for a good King, who is the Father of his People, for whom he employs your varied Labours to render happy and content? Say, you have some private Grievances of your own to complain of, that you are disappointed of some Preferments, that you imagine your Birth and Services entitle you to? Suppose this should be granted; suppose your private Complaints to be put in Balance with the Safety and Welfare of a whole Kingdom? Suppose your diabolical Scheme should have its Effect, what must have been the Consequence? What? but Blood, Slaughter, universal Desolation. For when once a Government is unhinged, as it must be, when your Support is taken away, the People, no longer under any Restraint, would run along into all manner of Riots and Disorders. In such a Case, the Poor would be no Crime to plunder the Rich, and the People would naturally call in the Military to deliver them from their Insults, and the Soldier, whose favourite Occupation is Plunder, would be sure to make it where he finds it in most abundance. A Civil War must necessarily

succeed such Disorders. Parties would be formed among the Nobility, some in Favour of one, some of another Pretender to the Crown: And how much Blood must be spilt, what terrible Devastations would cover the Land, before these pernicious Competitions could be reconciled, and made to unite in the Choice of a Person to be the supreme Governor? The very Thoughts and Supposition of such dreadful Evils, are enough to make any thinking Man's Blood run cold. Yet that such would have happened, in case this execrable Conspiracy had succeeded, who can doubt?

Let me ask you, *Joseph Mascarenhas*, late Duke of Aveiro, from whence proceeded that Hatred and Malice which, for some Years past, you have harbour'd in your Heart, and discover'd on every Occasion, against his Majesty? Was it because he deposed your Uncle from his high Post at the Beginning of the present Reign? Do not you know, that the Reason which induc'd his Majesty to take that Step, was, the over-bearing Insolence and intolerable Haughtiness of that Minister? who, by his turbulent Behaviour, threw the public Affairs into Confusion, and disconcerted those Measures which wiser and better Heads than his own concerted for the Good of the Kingdom? Was this then sufficient Grounds for your inveterate Malignancy against the King? Would not any Prince have treated a Minister in the same Manner who should endeavour to thwart him in every Branch of his Government? What other Cause can you alledge for your Hatred to his present Majesty? And was this a sufficient Motive to induce you to conspire the Death of your Prince? What Injury did you ever personally receive at his Hands? Had you not a very honourable Post in his Household? Was not the Place agreeable to the Dignity of your Birth? Was you not one of his Majesty's honourable Council, and always near his Person? What more could your Ambition desire? If indeed you aspired to the Crown, as there are very probable Grounds to believe you did, perhaps, in your own Opinion,

your Ambition was a sufficient Justification for the most enormous Practices that might carry you to that glorious Summit. Vain Man! From what a Height are you fallen! Into what a Depth of Misery are you sunk! And, what must sharpen the Accuteness of your Affliction, detested by every good Man, and unpitied by every true and faithful Subject. Sorry I am to see a Nobleman of the first Rank in your unhappy Circumstances, and 'tis with Grief of Heart that the horrid Nature of your Crime has obliged me to say thus much to you; but the Duty I owe to my Prince, and the Love I bear to my Country, supercedes all other Considerations whatever.

To you *Francis Affizes*, late Marquis of *Tavora*, I would address myself next, as one of the Chiefs in this most flagitious Conspiracy. It is a Matter of the greatest Astonishment to me, that a Man of your great Age, Sense, and Experience, should involve yourself in a Crime of so odious a Nature. That you, who have so largely participated of the Royal Favour, should counter-act all your former Obligations, and ungratefully attempt the Life of your best and greatest Benefactor. Did not his late Majesty give you a noble and lucrative Government in the *Indies*? Could you have a finer Opportunity offer'd you of acquiring Riches, and rendering yourself and Family respectable and happy? And was not your Reward equivalent to the Services you did the State? No, you say; there was a Favour which his present Majesty might have granted without any Prejudice to himself or the Public; that is, you would have been made a Duke, as a farther Gratuity for the Service you did in the *Indies*, not thinking that the generous Appointments made you by the King for that Employment were proportion'd to your great Merits, or rather boundless Ambition; and yet so kind and condescending was his Majesty, that, to humour your Vanity he would not have refus'd you that Honour, could you have produced one Precedent or Instance that it had ever been granted to any one before in the like Case. And because his Ma-

jefty would not make such a Precedent therefore you conceiv'd a Rancour Heart against his Sacred Person; such Rancour as obliterated all former Obligations, hurried you into a Conspiracy against precious Life; and so inveterate was your Hatred against him, that, not contented with being a bare Contriver, you resolutely undertook an Actor in this horrid Tragedy. These are the Motives which I have taken the Liberty to remove, I hope, have already had their due Effect, and brought you to a sincere Repentance.

As to you, Lady *Eleanor*, late Marchioness of *Tavora*, who are the third, tho' the least, but rather one of the most heinous offenders in this bloody Scheme of Parricide and Treason, give me Leave to tell you, that you have acted a Part not only disloyal to your Prince, but incongruous to your Sex, and unnatural to your Family. In what manner could his Majesty ever offend you, that should induce you to concur in the flagitious Design of taking away his Life? But why do I ask a Question, when it is well known to all the World, that it was Pride and Ambition that engaged you in this black and treacherous Business. 'Twas this made you, contrary to the meek Submission expected in your Sex, assume an Authority which did not belong to you, and by Virtue of that assumed and tremendous Authority to awe your Husband, and to procure Compliance with your Ambitious Views, that that prevail'd with you to inveigle your noble Sons, who were the Ornaments of your Family, and who might have liv'd to do good Services to their King and Country, to conspire with you and the rest of the Traitors against the Life of your Sovereign. O unnatural Mother! unhappy Children, born of such a Parent! Nor was you contented with the detestable Conquest of your Husband and Children unless you could bring all the rest of your Relations and Friends, every Body in the Reach of your Influence, into your pernicious Measures. To what a monstrous Length have you carried your Inveteracy! What

has possessed you thro' the whole of these iniquitous Proceedings! Is it possible, that a Woman's Heart should be fill'd with Rancour and Malice, merely for a Disappointment in her Expectations of a Title? Is it possible, that she should involve herself and family in irretrievable Ruin for the Sake of a Trifle, which, if obtain'd, would bring either to their Riches or Happiness? I hope, and am persuaded that you are now, come to a more serious Way of Thinking, that you are convinced of the Guilt and Villainy of your Crime, and that you are sincerely repented of it.

Now you the rest of the Criminals, who were dragg'd in to this Conspiracy by the Authority of your Superiors, your Case I must own; for had you not join in the horrid Scheme, it's highly probable you would have been deprived of that miserable Subsistence which you had under yet surely the Flagitiousness of the Crime which you was persuaded to commit, is not enough in the very Face of it, to excuse you of the least Consideration from Humanity of it. You now see the fatal Effect of paying a blind Obedience to the iniquitous Orders and Commands of wicked Parents and Masters. You now see, to your Cost, that you have only made the Dupes and Tools of their Ambition, and that tho' you would have gain'd nothing by the Success of the Enterprize, yet, by your Compliance, you are involv'd in all the Guilt and Punishment of it. May your Examples serve as means of warning others from plunging into the same Gulph of Misery in which you are miserably lost. All that remains for the Court to do is, to pass Sentence of Death upon you in a Manner, which, after the most lenient Consideration, they have judg'd adequate to your several Crimes; and may the Father of Mercy have Pity upon your Souls!

The before-mention'd Criminals being convicted of the Crimes laid to their charge, the whole Process closed on the 9th

of January; when Sentence was pronounced upon each of them to the Effect following, viz.

“ That *Joseph Mascarenhas* (late Duke de Aveiro) be divested of the Honours and Privileges of a *Portuguese*, degraded of the Honour of St. *Jago*, and be convey'd with a Halter about his Neck, and Proclamation of his Crimes, to a Scaffold on the Quay of the Town of *Belem*, be broken alive and expos'd on a Wheel, be burnt with the Scaffold, and the Ashes to be thrown into the Sea; that his Estates real and personal be confiscated to the Crown; and as the Laws had not provided a Punishment proportion'd to the Enormity of his Crime, the Court was empower'd to extend their Rigour, and it was accordingly order'd, that every Memorial and Remembrance of the said Criminal should be erased and obliterated; that his Arms and Atchievements be pulled down and torn to Pieces; that his Houses and Edifices be entirely demolish'd and cover'd with Salt; but that all the Houses and Estates he possess'd, which were derived from the Crown, should revert to the Crown again.

“ That the Criminal *Francis-Affizes de Tavora* be condemned to the same Pains, be unnaturalized and degraded; and in Consideration the said Criminal and his Wife had brought over into their Conspiracy the major Part of the Family, it was decreed, That no Persons whatever, should, for the future, make Use of the Surname of *Tavora* on the Penalty of being outlaw'd.

“ They condemn'd the two inhuman Assassins, *Antonio-Alvarez Ferreira* and *Joseph Policarp de Azevedo*, who fired the Shot at his Majesty, to be convey'd with Halters about their Necks, and Proclamation of their Crimes, to the Scaffold, and being fixed on two Posts, shall be burnt alive, and their Ashes thrown into the Sea, their Goods confiscated, and their Houses levell'd with the Ground and strew'd with Salt. And in as much as *Joseph-Policarp*

carp had absconded, he was outlaw'd, and a Reward of Ten Thousand Crusados promis'd to the Person or Persons who should take him within the Realm, and bring him to the Judge of the Inquest; and if taken in any Foreign Country, Twenty Thousand Crusados should be given with travelling Expences, to the Persons who should seize and give him up.

"They condemn'd the Criminals *Lewis Bernard de Tavora*, *Don Jerome de Ataide*, *Blaise Joseph de Romeira*, *John Michael*, and *Emanuel Alvarez*, to be convey'd with Halters about their Necks, to the Scaffold, be first strangled, and then the eight Bones of their Arms and Legs to be successively broken, their Bodies reduced to Ashes and thrown into the Sea, their Goods forfeited, and their Dwelling Houses razed and salted.

"That the Lady *Eleanor Tavora* be convey'd to the Scaffold with a Halter about her Neck, with a Proclamation of her Crimes, and be beheaded, and her Body burnt with the rest, but shall be exempted from the greater Punishments."

This terrible Sentence being pass'd, we are in the next Place to see it executed, but dreadful must the Sight be, and extremely shocking to every Beholder. *Mr. Hughes*, who saw it, says, he believes there were Seventy Thousand Spectators; the Scaffold was surrounded with Horse and Foot with their Bayonets fixed, and exactly at Nine o'Clock the Tragedy began. The Stage was about ten Feet high, with Stairs to ascend, and open on all Sides, several Forms were fasten'd to the Floor, with each a large Piece of Sailcloth laying near it.

The first who suffer'd was the Marchioness *de Tavora*, being brought in a cover'd Wagon, attended by two ill looking Fellows. She seem'd to have lost her Senses; her Arms were tied down; she was a tall Woman, and seem'd to be about Fifty. When she came on the Scaffold, the Executioner plac'd a Stool in the

Front for her to sit upon; but she Knees, and continued waving her Body about five or six Minutes in great Agitation. Upon which the Executioner made her two Guards to take her up, with some Difficulty they did, and set her on a Stool. Then she was tied down, and Mantle taken off, and the Executioner with a large Backsword, at one Blow cut off her Head, which fell on the Floor, and the Bit of Skin being cut, it lay on the Floor. The Body was then laid on a Form and covered with a Sailcloth.

The next that suffer'd was *Joseph*, a beautiful Youth of about Sixteen Age, in his Regimentals. He was stript to his Shirt and Breeches, and was then led to a Wheel or Cross, the first Executioner made a Catgut about his Neck and strangled him with his Face uncover'd. Then the second Executioner broke his Bones and cover'd up by his Mother.

The Count *Atouguia* came on next, he was very ill of a Fever; and after him the young Marquis *de Tavora*, a handsome young Man. They both underwent the same Punishment with *Joseph Maria*. The Marquis suffer'd with great Calmness and without any Tremor or Trepidation; but the Servants were doing so much making loud Exclamations, and the Officers, tho' they were only to stand by, and afterwards broke.

The old Marquis *de Tavora* was then led up, and broke alive on the Wheel; he had been on the Rack so often, that he had no more ado to get up the Stairs. He came in company with the Duke *de Aveiro*, in a Cart to the Place of Execution, but the Duke was oblig'd to stay in it, and see the Execution of his Friend and Associate. Being free of his Manacles, he went towards the Scaffold, which he lifted up to view the Bodies of the dead. When he came to that of his younger Son, he kneeled down, kiss'd it, and lamented

After that, he took the Iron Hand with which he was to be executed, was then fasten'd to the Wheel, and being first broke, and then his Execution proclaim'd by a Herald. He was kept a Quarter of an Hour under the Executioner's Hand, tho' it's thought he receiv'd several Strokes while he was alive, but his Executioner was not enough to pierce the hardest Heart; he got the *Coup de Grace*, which is the last Stroke.

After *d' Aveiro* came on next, and was executed with greater Severity than any of them. His hands were chopp'd off in an Instant, before he attempted to fire a Blunderbuss at the Executioner. In that bleeding Condition he was fasten'd to the Wheel, where he receiv'd eight Strokes, and languish'd in his Execution a Hour and a Quarter; his Face became over black, and at every Stroke his Executioners were frightful. The last Stroke broke his Heart, and forced out his Bowels, and he was laid with the rest.

After being done two Fellows came upon the Scaffold, upon which they fixed two Stakes, with which they placed a Heap of Sticks and other Combustibles, which they set on fire, and the Assassin who shot at the King. They put him a pitched Garment, and being fasten'd to the Stake, he was chained to it; his Executioner's Bodies were brought and laid separately, being all strewed over about an Execution with Rosin; the Faggots were then set on fire, and the whole set on Fire; he was burnt to Ashes, the Ashes were collected and thrown into the *Tagus*.

When the Execution was in Hand, the Executioners of the Conspirators were pulled down, and their Heads sown with Salt. The other Parts of their Execution several Sentences were likewise fully executed on the Criminals, the Day before their Execution, being degraded from their Honours, and their Effects sold by public Auction; and

those whom the Court thought proper to save, were obliged to change their Names.

In a few Days afterwards the Embargo was taken off the Shipping; and the three *English* Men of War, the Merchant Ships under their Convoy, and the *Hanover* Packet, which sailed the first of *December*, were the only Ships that had gone out from this Port, from the 30th of *December* till the 16th of *January*, when the Embargo was taken off.

The 15th the King and the Royal Family assisted at a *Te Deum* sung at the Chapel of *Nossa Senhora de Livramento*, in Thanksgiving for his most Faithful Majesty's Recovery. As this was the first Time that his Majesty appear'd abroad, great Demonstrations of Joy were shewn by the People, to whom the King was pleased to give the Satisfaction of waving his Handkerchief, first in one Hand and then in the other, to shew that he had the Use of both. *Te Deum* for the King's Recovery was likewise celebrated in all the Churches and Chapels of the Kingdom.

It has been before intimated, that the Jesuits were deeply concerned in the Plot; of which the King was so thoroughly convinced, by many concurring Circumstances and apparent Facts, that he thought it necessary to send to *Rome* to beg his Holiness would not protect the Society, but give Leave that those of them who should be found criminal, might be punished according to their Deserts: The King of *Portugal* is too faithful a Son of the Church to be denied so small a Favour; and being indulged to his Wish, he caused the Colleges and Monasteries of these Holy Fathers to be surrounded with armed Men, and several of their Members to be taken up and imprisoned.

That the King had sufficient Reasons to proceed with Rigour against those Fathers, will appear from the Discoveries that were made of their Intrigues, in the Course of the Trials of the above Criminals.

It is evidently proved, that the Jesuits, after their Coalition with the disaffected Nobles, (between whom there had been an implacable Enmity) they held several Conferences together both at their Colleges of *S. Antão* and *S. Roque*, and at the Houses of the Chief Conspirators, to consult Measures to change the Government and destroy the King, the Jesuits promising Indemnity to him that should perpetrate the horrid Fact.

It was likewise proved, that the Jesuits joined with the Marchioness *de Tavora* and the Duke *d'Aveiro* in seducing her Husband, Children and Friends into the said Conspiracy, the Attempt on the King's Life.

It appear'd also, that the Jesuits, finding themselves excluded from the Administration and Management of Public Affairs in the present Reign, to which they were admitted in the former, and without which they could not cover nor support their Usurpations in his Majesty's Dominions in *Asia*, *Africa* and *America*; much less palliate the open War and Rebellion which they had kindled in the Countries bordering on *Brazil*; they devised the most flagitious Calumnies and Intrigues against his Majesty's Person, in order to alienate the Love of his Subjects, and contrived various and pernicious Projects to raise Seditions both at Court and in the Heart of the Kingdom. From all which arises a strong Presumption, if other Proofs had failed, to convince every unprejudiced Person, that the Jesuits devised and encouraged the Insult on his Majesty on the 3d of *September*.

As a farther Confirmation that the Jesuits were involved in the Guilt of this horrid Conspiracy, it was proved, that after the Fraternity had been forbidden the Palace, and deposed from being Penitentiaries to the Royal Family, they publicly boasted, that the more the Court threw them off, so much the more firmly the Nobility stood by them; prognosticating, by way of Prophecy, even till the latter End of

August last, that his Majesty's Life short, giving the same Hints to their pondents in the several Countries of But no sooner were the Conspirators the 13th of *December*, than by the Post, their Provincial, *John Henry*, others of the Fraternity, in their *Letter* to *Rome*, gave Notice of this fatal Accident, that military Guards were set on the House of their own Order, beseeching the *Father* in *Rome* to recommend them to God; that themselves they could make no Oppression that their whole Community was in the Terror and Confusion; that the public had made them Advisers of the Insult on the 3d of *September*, and had already condemned them to Imprisonments, Banishment, total Expulsion from the Court and Kingdom, and that they were in the utmost Distress without Consolation, or even the Hopes of Mercy. From hence it appears, that before the Conspiracy was detected, they had conceived most sanguine Expectations of its Success; that after the Miscarriage of it, finding themselves discover'd, and the Conspirators they sunk into the most abject Mean Spirit, which is a plain Evidence of their Guilt, and that they had no Way left them but their Dissimulation.

When the Government had taken Secrecy as many of the Conspirators as could be found, an *Edict* or *Decree* was published in the Name of his most Faithful Majesty the King of *Portugal*, to encourage any Subjects to make further Discoveries of the Conspirators, they knew concerning this horrid Plot. The Translation of which *Edict* is as follows

WHEREAS most exemplary has been the Piety with which the King of the Crown I inherit have always cultivated sacredly and inviolably, Respect, Loyalty and Fidelity towards their Kings and Lords, in such a Manner as distinguished them among the other Nations of *Europe*, for the most scrupulous Discharge

ing Obligations: And notwithstanding faithful Subjects, from the Command of my Government to the present, have given me continual and most ample Proofs of their general Acknowledgments of the many and great Benefits we received from my paternal and unerring Care: Yet do I unhappily discover, the Natives of these Kingdoms, Perpetrators can be degenerately forgetful of such and never exceeded Examples of Reverence for the honourable and indispensable Gratitude and Fidelity: Persons who are intractable from atrocious Iniquity, and corrupted with the Beauties of well-cultivated Virtues: Whom not the Turpitude of numerous Offences can awe from the commission of them, nor the heavy Burthens which they load their depraved Conscience to restrain them in the Commission of Crimes, for which Retribution must be reaped for the public Welfare of these Kingdoms and for the common Honour of all Subjects thereof; who cannot fail of suffering the most sensible Grief, till there is a reformation made from their Body of Delinquents, who have been guilty of so horrid a Conspiracy; and of daring to machinate against one another, with diabolical Intent, in the Conspiracy the most sacrilegious and execrable.

The first Contrivance was to have it suggested and spread about clandestinely and secretly (in a mysterious Manner, in order to shake on the Sincerity of more worthy Subjects, upon which they hoped to have Impressions by such Kinds of Insinuations, that my royal Life could not possibly be in Danger, and even affecting to limit it to the Month of *September* then approaching. The Conspirators had endeavoured to shake on the public Mind by such malign

nant Predictions, they advanced to that greater Temerity which was demonstrated by the horrid Insult committed on the Third Day of the above-mentioned Month of *September* last past, at Eleven of the Clock at Night, on my going out of the Gate of the House called, * *The House in the Mid-way*, in order to pass by the small Field to this Palace of my Residence, to my Repose: Having posted three of the said Conspirators mounted on Horse-back near the said Gate, concealed by the Houses adjoining, who discharged, with infamous and execrable Fury on the Body of the Equipage I was in, three Blunderbusses charged with large Shot, of which one missed fire, but the other two went off, and were sufficient not only to make two large Holes in the Back of the Equipage, but also, besides to make such Havoc of the whole said Back of the Equipage, as left human Judgment without the Power of comprehending, on beholding it, how it could be possible that my Royal Person should be saved, shut up in so narrow a Compass and amidst so entire a Devastation, with no greater Hurt than those dangerous Wounds that I there received, had not my Royal Life been positively preserved by the visible Wonder-working Hand of *Omnipotence*, amidst the Destruction that was made by that most horrible Insult. And whereas there are barbarously and sacrilegiously offended by it, all the Foundations, the most sacred of Rights, Divine, Natural, Civil and National, to the so great Offence of Religion and Humanity, Retribution for the Insult is made so much the more indispensable, so much the greater and more grating the Scandal is which results from it to the *Portuguese* Fidelity; whose laudable Sentiments of Honour, of Love, and of Gratitude to my Royal Person, I shall never be able to repay without giving them the moral Certainty that they will see so execrable a Conspiracy torn up by its poisonous Roots; and

is a House of the King's which stands half way between two of his Country Palaces at *Belem*. Those are about a Mile distant from one another. That which he now lives in is built of Wood since the late, and situated a little higher than the Uppermost of the others.

that among my faithful Vassals there exists no one of those horrid Monsters that contrived to commit such abominable Crimes. I therefore signify that all Persons who discover (in such a Manner that they verify what they declare) which or whatever of the Parties of that infamous Combination, shall, if they are of the *Plebeian* Orders, be by me directly be made Noble; and if they are of higher Ranks, they shall be made more Noble; and have competent Stipends allowed them: If they are already Noblemen by Establishment, I will honour them with the Titles of Viscounts and Earls, in Conformity to the Graduation that they are now in; and if they are Titulars I will advance them to higher ones than those that they now enjoy. Besides which Favours I will confer on such Discoverers, others of great Utility, that is, pecuniary ones; such as Offices of Justice, of the Revenue, of the Estates of the Crown, and of the military Orders: Reserving to my royal Determination the Regulating thereof agreeable to the Quality, and the Importance of the Service of every respective Discoverer: And I likewise declare that whosoever of the Conspirators shall make Discovery of their Accomplices, provided they were not themselves the Chiefs and Contrivers of the Mischief, shall be immediately pardoned. To the Officers of Justice who shall apprehend any of the Parties concerned in this Crime I will give Honours and Rewards in Proportion to the Services that in this Business they do me, and besides what is expressed above in Relation to Discoverers. And that no one may be induced to conceal from Ignorance such pernicious Offenders, from a false Opinion that Discoverers become Infamous, I require all my People to observe this, that what is vulgar Custom with regard to Matters of the Revenue in a Nation, cannot take Place in Cases of Conspiracy against a Sovereign Prince, and in the highest Treason: But much to the contrary; for Silence, in such Cases, incurs the same Penalties and the same Infamy to which the Principals are condemned of such pernicious

Offences: Inasmuch, that Fathers are punished for concealing their Sons; and contrary, Sons for concealing their Fathers. Because superior to all other Obligations of preserving your King, and your Country, And King's act as common Father, they punish Crimes that are so atrocious so prejudicial to the Public. And so horrible a Case makes it indispensable to use all possible Diligence in the punishment of Offenders, I am pleased to extend general all the Jurisdictions of the Nobles of these Kingdoms, without exception, to my own Lands or those of any Grants, ever privileged they may be, in such manner that all may be entered without waiting for a new Order from the Ministers of the Crown, or of the said Grants, for any Thing relating to the Seizure of the Offenders in this Crime, who I Order may be apprehended by any Persons who shall get Notice or be informed of them, seizing them in whatever Place they can find them, on Condition, however, as soon as they have taken them Prisoners, they immediately carry them *via recta* to the nearest Resident, for him to send them to this City with the utmost Expedition. *Doctor Pedro Gonçalves Cordeiro* President of my Council, Judge of the Palace, President of the Board of Conscience and Orders, and Cancellor of the Court of Supplication, he serves as Regidor, is whom I have appointed Judge of Inconfidance to execute, as that is necessary: And who is to cause to be posted up in public Places, of the City of *Lisbon* and its districts; and to transmit it, under his signature, to all other Cities and Towns of the Kingdoms. To which End I order that the same be signed by him have the same Credit as if it were per Original, notwithstanding any Laws, positions or Customs to the contrary, and those that require an especial Derogation.

Belem, December,

9, 1758.

Signed,

Informations we may suppose were upon the Publication of this Edict; and principal Discovery was made on the Perpetration of the Crime, by the Duke d'Aveiro and his friends, as they imagin'd, fully executing a horrid Design on the Person of the King, directly to Lisbon, to a House of the Ruffians. The Man's Wife seeing this, and having her Brother, a Glover, at the same Instant, push'd him into the Room where they then were, had no sooner done but the Conspiracy. The Woman it seems was wholly ignorant of their Secrets, and was now so ignorant that she scarce knew what she did. The Glover lay conceal'd the remaining of the Night, and over-heard all that was said to this poor Fellow was owing the discovery of the Conspiracy. The Duke, being out of the Reach of every Search, but that of his Bravos there present, open'd himself without Reserve or Retention, talking freely of their late Exploit, in particular, that his Mind misgave him they had not dispatched the King, and the others replied, they were sure he should escape. Ay, answer'd the Duke, I should have left the King, but we had ocular Demonstration of his Death.

They remained for some Hours, their discourse turning upon their late Design, the Methods they had taken to execute it, till they thought the Coast was clear, and the Thing hush'd and quiet, and then they went to their several Homes, without searching for, or having the least Suspicion of the King, which was the saving the poor King, who, had he been found, would have been sacrificed, to prevent the Discovery of the Conspiracy.

The Glover was strangely surpriz'd at their Discourse, but could not tell what to make of it, and had no Notion of the Conspiracy. But

soon afterwards hearing the Rumour about Town, that his Majesty had, that very Night he was conceal'd in the Closet, been way-laid and assaulted as he was going to his Palace, he put all Circumstances together, and concluded that what he had over-heard in his Concealment, must relate to that Assault, and that it was his Duty to reveal it. Accordingly he went directly to the Secretary of State, and made his Information, which was soon afterwards corroborated and confirmed by Advices from other Hands; by which Means the Ministry were quickly apprized of the whole Plot, as well as the Contrivers of it, and order'd their Proceedings accordingly.

The Pope being informed of the Troubles which the Jesuits had fomented in Portugal, and of the Attempt, which, thro' their Instigation had been made on the King's Life, was under the greatest Uneasiness; and being told that the Archbishop of Evora and the Bishop of Oporto (both of the House of Tavora) were among the Persons imprison'd by his most Faithful Majesty, the holy Father could not forbear crying out, 'Good God! to what Calamities have you reserved your Church? The Kingdom, which was formerly the most quiet, gives us now more Trouble and Solitude than all the others. Is it for my Sins, Great God, that all this happens under my Pontificate?'

Among other Contrivances which the Government put in Practice for the more complete Discovery of those concern'd in the Conspiracy, was this. They order'd a Vessel to be got ready to be sent to Brazil: The Captain's Instructions were sealed up, which he was not to open till he came into such a Latitude, which was near the End of his Voyage. The Captain obey'd, and when he came to examine his Instructions, he found Orders to search all his Passengers and seize their Letters, and then to return and bring them Home and deliver them to the Secretaries of State. All which was punctually observ'd, and many

more of the Conspirators were by this Means discover'd and imprison'd, particularly the Jesuits, who have a large Correspondence in that Part of the World.

Another strong Proof that the Jesuits were the chief Instigators to this Conspiracy, is, that the Duke d' Aveiro confess'd on the Rack, and persisted in that Confession to the last, that the three Jesuits (one an *Italian*, and the other two *Portuguese*) Confessors to the Royal Family, had persuaded him to engage in this horrid Design against the Life of the King, after they had been dismiss'd from that honourable Office, on account of their Intrigues against the Interest of the State and Kingdom. And indeed the Confessions of all the rest of the Criminals run in the same Strain, in accusing these holy Directors of the Conscience, of being the Contrivers and Abettors of this execrable Plot.

Since therefore the Court was convinced by so many demonstrable Evidences that these Fathers were so deep in the Conspiracy, no Wonder that the King and Ministry should issue out Orders to seize all the Jesuits that could be found in the Kingdom. Accordingly they were all taken up, and secur'd in the two Convents at *Lisbon*, and a strong Guard set over them; they are to remain there during the King's Pleasure, and to have no other Subsistence than 7d. a Day Sterling. And 'tis imagin'd that they will be all banish'd the Kingdom, with a strict Injunction, never to return again on Pain of Death.

Thus have we given a View, according to the best Information, of all the Proceedings, Trials and Executions of these unhappy Criminals, together with their Examinations and Confessions, and the dreadful Tortures they were put to preparatory to, and at the Time of, their Execution; which, however terrible they may appear to us, who are govern'd by Laws much less sanguinary, and which inflict no Punishment but what is consistent with Humanity and the benevolent Principles of Religion; yet accord well enough with despotie

Governments, where the Will of is the supreme Law, and where have full Scope to exercise all Mannties, which our corrupt and degenerate is but too apt to inspire us with, in ourselves upon our Enemies. We next Place draw the Characters of the Actors in this Tragedy, and give a of their Titles, Honours and Pre their own Country.

Don *Joseph Mascarenhas* and *Le Lancaster*) Duke of *Aveiro*, Marquis *Novas* and of *Gouvea*, and Earl *Cruz*, Hereditary Lord Steward of Household, which is the highest Office in the Palace, and President of the Palace last Tribunal of Appeal in the Kingdom is the second Officer of the Realm; related himself to the *Tavoras*, and the eldest Sister of the Marquis of He was in the Fifty-first Year of of the lowest middle Size, well made Person, of an agreeable Countenance and lively Disposition.

Francisco de Affiz and *Tavora* [the being above taking the Title of Don of *Tavora* and of *Saint John* and General of the Horse, &c. This was himself the eldest Branch of the Family; the third noble House of the and by marrying his Kinswoman, the the Marquise, became, in her Right *Saint John* and Marquis of *Tavora* Family of the *Tavoras* is the most illustrious in the Kingdom, as well for the Purity and antiquity of their Descent; deriving them from the Kings of *Leon*, having ever their Dignity, disdaining to make less than the most noble Alliances; in fact it has of late been the Practice of the Branches of this Family to marry only one another. They were themselves conquerors from the Moors of the *Lancaster* possess, and on which there is a River, and an ancient Castle of the

pretend to be Lords of *Tavora* of God. The Marquis was in his Age, of the highest mid-
a genteel Person, comely Coun-
a grave Deportment.

Marquis de Tavora Marchioness of *Tavora* her own Right, and Wife to the
Marquis, was in the 59th
Age. She was of the lower mid-
thin, extremely genteel, and in
had been very beautiful. In the
Life she appear'd highly amiable,
extreme good Mother, and demon-
self as good a Wife by accompany-
band to *India* at the Age of Fifty,
appointed Viceroy of the *Portuguese*
in that Country; of which Under-
before her's, there had been but a
ample. Her Deportment in general
ous and affable, and she was allow-
Lady of good Understanding.

Bernardo Tavora, younger Mar-
Title, was the eldest Son of the
Couple, and in the 36th Year
He was married with a Dispen-
for that Purpose from the Pope,
her's youngest Sister *Dona Thereza*
and *Lorena* (or *Lorain*) who was
years younger than himself. This is
who is said to have been in the Nun-
without our having been in
Authority, that she was sent thither
Order of the Court. She is a mid-
lady, comely in her Person, and ex-
gant in her Deportment. The Mar-
band, was a little Man and thin,
made, but not of a pleasing Af-
with a considerable Resemblance of
He was neither deficient in Wit
but not amiable in his Conduct,
ly correct in his Morals. This
a Daughter living in the twelfth
er Age, *Dona Joanna de Tavora*,
ceeding beautiful: But who, without

being an Accomplice in their Guilt, is, by the
Sentence of her Father, Grandfather and
Grandmother, deprived of the very Name,
of which otherwise she would have been the
Chief; and, with a Severity that must astonish,
is decreed infamous.

Joseph Maria de Tavora, second and
youngest Son of the elder Marquis and Marchi-
oness of *Tavora*, in the 23d Year of his Age,
of a middle Size, most beautiful Face, genteel
Person, agreeable Deportment, and amiable
Disposition. This young Nobleman, had he
lived, would have been married to his Niece,
the Heiress of the Family; and their Offspring
have enjoyed the Marquise of *Tavora*. There
are said to have happened Circumstances of
Fortitude and Resolution in his Prosecution that
do him Honour.

Don Jeronyma de Abaide, Earl of *Atougia*,
one of the oldest, if not the most antient Titles
of the Kingdom. This Nobleman was in the
38th Year of his Age, related himself to the
Tavoras, and married to the eldest Daughter
of the elder Marquis and Marchioness of *Ta-
vora*, and Sister to the young Marquis and
Joseph Maria of that Name. He was of mid-
dle Stature, clumsy in his Make, of a heavy
Aspect, and ungrateful Demeanour, and of
slow Parts, but in his general Conduct an inof-
fensive Man.

Some no Doubt will be apt to charge these
Proceedings with an unreasonable Cruelty, in
extending the Punishment, due only to the
Guilty, to the innocent Branches of a Family,
whose tender Age render'd them incapable
of such a Crime. But whoever is acquainted
with the Temper and Disposition of the *Portu-
gueze*, and their Implacability in revenging an
Injury, knows that the late Proceedings there,
are exactly conformable to the constant Cus-
toms and Practice of the People. They will
be patient in Indigence, and endure Injuries in
Property: But the Wounds of Honour are
never to be healed but by the Blood of those
who

who gave them. Of the Fury and unextinguishable Rancour of this Passion, numberless Instances might be produced; but two will suffice, and those of People now living, to illustrate this Matter.

The Marquis of *Gouvea* (elder Brother of the late Duke of *Aveiro*) Hereditary Lord Steward of the Household, and a particular Favourite of the late King's, had an Intrigue with a married Woman of Quality, but of a Rank that was inferior to his own. The Affair happen'd to be discover'd, and the Marquis and Lady immediately made their Escape out of the Kingdom. The Lady was placed in a Convent in *Galicia*, and the Marquis came over to *England*. The dishonour'd Family no sooner discover'd where this unhappy Woman was shelter'd, than they found Means of dispatching her with Poison. Nay, one of the Family is said to have pursued the Marquis hither, with a Determination to murder him. But the *Portuguese* Envoy, then resident in *London*, by Accident got Scent of his Arrival, and on finding him out, sent a Messenger to desire to speak with him.

At their Interview he told him, that as he had not visited him on his Arrival, the Cause of his coming over was but too evident; and therefore it became his Duty to advise him to return immediately again, without rashly undertaking what would infallibly cost him his Life, a new Dishonour to his Family, and with it produce Scandal to his Country; for he might most certainly depend, that if he ventur'd to violate the Laws of this Kingdom, by committing a Murder, he would most assuredly be hang'd for it at *Tyburn*. These Remonstrances, supported by Menaces at the same Time of causing him to be apprehended on a Disregard of them, had their proper Effect; and he was accordingly carefully sent back to his own Country.

But no Submission from the Marquis, nor Interposition of the King, could prevail for the making up this Matter. The offending

Nobleman still lives an Exile in *Italy*, and never think of returning again to *Portugal*. It was in Consequence of this unhappy Affair that the elder Marquis, for the Prefect of his Family, was prevailed upon to resign to the Resignation of his Estate to his younger Brother, reserving to himself no more than a yearly Allowance out of it. Upon the King of which Contract the Brother was first made Earl of *Santa Cruz*, and afterwards Marquis of *Gouvea*, and with these Titles enjoy'd the hereditary Office of Lord Steward of the Household, belonging to the Family. It is but very lately he obtained the Estate and Title of *Aveiro* in Right of male Descent; all of which we have seen with his Life and Family, in so lamentable Manner.

The other I shall produce is one that the Public has already been acquainted with in the following Manner. (See the *Herald*, P. 128.) At a *French* Ball, where many *Portuguese* Nobility were present, a Quarrel arose, while the Company were at Supper, betwixt Don *Joseph de Noronha*, a Son of the Duke of *Arcos*, and Don *Antonio de Menezes*, which the former struck the latter; whereupon the latter's Return had seized a Bottle, and was going to repay the Injury by throwing it at his Brother's Head, but was unfortunately prevented. Had he done it, his Honour had been retorted; but as he could not, he remains with a terrible Stain of a Blow. Both were immediately laid under an Arrest. But, to prevent cool Mischief, the Aggressor was suffered to escape out of the Kingdom; where he continues in a miserable Indigence, his Family being too poor to furnish him with the means for his decent Subsistence; while the other remains in a State of so much Infamy at *Lisbon*, that he cannot go to Court, assist at any publick Act, nor be received into any honourable Company. For, till he has caused the Brother who struck him to be murder'd, no European Birth will be seen by him, nor sit down, or stand up in a Room where he is. Yet is this

young Nobleman a Man of Sense, and worthy Character; but he must at all commit Murder, or patiently submit. After the late dreadful Earthquake the starving Exile wrote to Don Anselmo telling him that he embraced that Time of Distress and Compassion to implore reconciliation, and offering to make any atonement for the Injury he had done him. The Offender's Relations obliged him to accept of the better they took upon themselves to give him an Answer, which was such a one as cut off all Hopes of Accommodation for ever.

Two Stories, which are true, of actual Persons, plainly evince, that no Person of Distinction can encounter Dishonour without revenging it. 'Tis a Principle adopted by the Court, the Judges, and the whole People. There are no Men going to Law for Dishonour's Kind; and they ever speak with the Contempt of all People, of whatsoever Condition, that in such Cases, apply for Satisfaction.

It is therefore to be wonder'd at that this is a ruling Principle in that Kingdom; it appears so warrantable among them, that a Man who kills another in the Cause of Honour is so far from being impeded in his Honour that he will, on the contrary, be assisted by every one in the making of it. And a Man could be arrested, or even arraigned for dishonour, if he prove but Provocation, in defence of his Honour, he is rarely, if ever, punished for his Act of Revenge.

It is rightly of the Actions of any Person is certainly necessary to be acquainted with the ruling Principle. The most ruling Principle of the Portuguese is a high Sense of Honour along with the conceived Necessity of defending any Attacks on it. This we may call an erroneous one, but they never will; for

it is there too deeply and universally rooted for either Laws or Executions to eradicate.

The Original of the Differences between the King and Nobility of Portugal; extracted from some Letters lately published.

THE Kingdom of Portugal was rescued from the Spaniards by the Valour and Resolution of the People, and particularly the Nobility, who on the 1st of December 1640, suddenly beset the Palace, master'd the Guard, took the Dutchess of Mantua, who was Governess of the Kingdom, Prisoner, murder'd Vasconcellos, who was her Secretary of State, and proclaimed the Duke of Braganza King of Portugal.

Twenty-eight Years did they sustain a War for the Establishment of their Independency, with great Fortitude and Valour; which at last, by the Mediation and under the Guarantee of Great Britain, they happily obtained.

Thus the Duke of Braganza, from a Subject, became John IV. of Portugal, raised to sovereign Power, and seated on the Throne which his Great Grandson at present inherits. All Historians allow he was elected King, and presented with the Crown by his Nobility, who, of themselves, undertook the Revolution and accomplish'd it in Lisbon, while he lay inactive at a Country Palace in Alemtejo, the Southern frontier Province in Spain.

While the Enterprize was meditating, it was several Times debated, whether they should establish a Commonwealth or a Kingdom; and when they had determin'd on the latter, it was disputed, whether they should chuse the Duke of Braganza, the Duke of Aveiro, or the Marquis of Villa-real, for their Sovereign. But the Archbishop of Lisbon is said to have influenced their Determination in Favour of the First, principally on account of his superior Right from Blood, as he was the second in Line

Line, and first native Heir, to their antient Royal Family; being lineally descended from a Grand-daughter of King *Emanuel*, that had an elder Sister married to the Duke of *Parma*, whose Issue they consider'd as excluded, because Foreigners.

Thus, though the Right of Blood was undoubtedly in him, the Duke of *Braganza* was elected to the Throne; nay, was with so much Difficulty persuaded to hazard his Life and great Estate by accepting it, that the venturing to do it, at last, is said to be owing to the earnest Persuasions of his Dutchess, a *Spanish* Lady, who was Sister to the Duke of *Medina-Sidonia*; certain it is that the Revolution was first planned by the Nobility, without his Participation; and was afterwards executed without his Assistance. It cannot, therefore, be supposed, that the Adventurers in this Enterprize had no Object in View for their own Advantage. They had a just and honourable one; namely, the Re-establishment of their antient Constitution along with the restoring the Independency of their Country.

All this became happily accomplished: For with the Elevation of the House of *Braganza* to the Throne, their national *Cortes*, or assemblies of the States were restored. These Estates consisted of the three Orders of the People, Nobility, Clergy, and Commonalty; the latter being represented, as with us, by Deputies from the principal Cities and Towns of the Kingdom. They did not indeed enact Laws, but they advised them. They levied Taxes, however, for the Support of Government, and took Cognizance of, and deliberated upon, many other Matters of high Importance. But of these, and many other valuable Privileges, they have been totally deprived in the last and present Reign,

Nor was the Restoration of *Portugal* the last Revolution which has happen'd in that Kingdom: *John IV* left two Sons, both Minors at his Death, *Afonso* and *Peter*. The

first succeeded him, under the Regent Mother till he came of Age. But weak Prince, his Brother, who had intrigued with the Nobility, and by the deposition of him from the Government *Peter* took into his own Hands, the Title of Regent, till the Death of *Afonso* lived, with hard Usage, as a State for about fifteen Years. *Peter* then to himself the Title and Authority of indeed they were become his Inheritance had married his Brother's Wife soon deposing of him, on the procuring force under the Plea of Imbecility, taining a Dispensation from *Rome* for espousing of her.

Thus were the Nobility of *Portugal* influential in the conducting of Government than they had before been in establishing perhaps this extraordinary Service do second Branch of the Royal Family the prevailing Motive for depriving their Power of doing any future Kingdom the same Nature. Certain it is, that the Assembly of the *Cortes* was caused by *Peter* for their taking the Oaths to his son *John*, as hereditary Prince and Successor to the Crown,

He, however, always kept upon equal Terms with them; and it must be so was both prudent and just in him for. For their great Power could not be diminished but by Degrees: And besides, the Obligations his Family owed them for their Advancement to the Crown, they shew'd the generous Spirit to serve in all the great Offices of the Court without Fee or Salary, as they continued to do till very lately; and what they receive at present is so very insignificant as hardly to be worthy of their acceptance. This Resignation of their Offices arose from a true Greatness of Mind in resolving to support the Dignity of the Crown without burthening the State with the weight of Difficulty and Distress. What the

gave up, the Sons learned to do
and it must be acknowledg'd, to
Honour, that the *Portuguese* No-
ever been as lavish of their Fortunes
blood, in Support of their Sovereign's
and the Service of their Country :
every Employment, and on all Occa-
they have discover'd themselves more
to contribute Honour than to acquire

the late King of Portugal, *John V*,
his Father, *Peter II*, on the Throne,
they consider'd themselves as in full
of their constitutional Power and In-
and even the Commonalty conserved
of theirs, called *Juiz de Povo* (that
or rather Advocate for the People)
a Degree of Eminence, that he could
Time demand an immediate Audience
ing, freely to remonstrate on their Be-
inist any Innovations that they con-
be prejudicial either to their Rights or
But this, and all other essential Pri-
were very speedily destroy'd.

ays happen'd, as it is to be feared it
will do, that the Privileges of a higher
People will be too frequently strained,
prejudice of that which is subordinate.
Abuses arise that create Heart-burnings
contusions, of which crafty Governments
now how to avail themselves, to the
of both Parties. This has been the
case of Overthrow to most legal Con-
that have existed; the Error lying
on the higher Side, in an Abuse of
which, wheresoever lodged, has but
a Tendency to create Abuses of all
And it is moreover to be lamented,
Nobility of all Countries seldom think
sufficiently exalted above the Level
commonalty. They therefore are ge-
nerally ready to recommend themselves to
sacrificing their Inferiors, and often
shall increase their own Consequence
ing: Whereas nothing is more certain,

than that the due Support of all Rights of both
Orders, is the true Cement of Union, and
their only safe Bulwark for common Defence.

It was the Misfortune of the *Portuguese* No-
bility to over-value their Importance in the
State: And besides, they have ever had so im-
measurable a Pride in the Dignity of Descent,
as makes them despise and depreciate too much
every one who is destitute of a like Claim. In
the full Indulgence of these Vanities, therefore,
they were ever ready to concur in all Measures
for the entire subjecting of the People, not
considering that their own Consequence would
sink, as it naturally must do, with the Annihila-
tion of that of the Commonalty.

In fine, the lower Orders of the People be-
came gradually subjected; and for a while the
Nobility were admitted to a Share in the ty-
rannizing over them. But this Indulgence had
but a very limited Duration. They were only
suffer'd to make themselves hated by the Peo-
ple, in order to deprive them of their Assist-
ance when an Opportunity should offer for
their own Subjugation. This their readily in-
dulged Licentiousness furnished a too speedy a
Pretence for doing: The Crown made sure of
the Judges and other Administrators of Justice;
and it was for an Insult in the Exercise of ju-
dicial Authority that the Blow at last was
struck. In short; for some of the Nobility's
beating an under Officer of Justice in the Dis-
charge of his Duty, and for others presuming
to vindicate their doing of it, *John* order'd a-
bove thirty of them to be seized at once; and
after an ignominious Confinement for many
Months, banished them, under severe Re-
straints, to the remote Parts of the Kingdom,
constraining them from any Intercourse or
Correspondence with one another; and then
said openly to those of the Order that remained
about him, ' My Grandfather feared ye, and
' my Father loved ye; but I neither love ye,
' nor fear ye; and will make ye know that I
' am, and will be, the absolute Sovereign of
' this Kingdom !'

Thus was the fatal Stroke given, with Severity, to *Portuguese* LIBERTY and PRIVILEGE; lost by the Disunion of those, who should have been the confederate Champions of each other's Rights, and by the unhappy Cause of Advantages which one Order at least wanted the Discretion, with a dignified Moderation to enjoy. These Noblemen continued in Exile till the Treaty was concluded for a double Marriage with *Spain*, and then they were recalled, in order to grace the Interview at the Ceremony of interchanging the Princesses on the Frontiers of the two Kingdoms. On which Occasion the Court of *Portugal* exerted all its Powers in the Display of Pomp: Inasmuch that an Emulation was seen, and encouraged, among the Nobility, who should run his Estate deepest in Debt, in order to make the highest Figure. Those who had suffer'd Disgrace, were solicitous to recover Favour, by an ostentatious Sacrifice of their Fortunes; while the others, unwilling to be out done in what is extremely natural to them, a Zeal for the Honour of their King, and the Lustre of their own Order, readily launched out into a Profusion of Expence, and thereby established their own Impotence by a consequent Indigence.

In this Manner did the Yoke of Slavery become rivetted on the Necks of the Nobility. What has since followed, to make the Weight of it extremely galling, shall be the next Subject of our Enquiry.

John V of *Portugal* did not find his arbitrary Disposition sufficiently gratified by entirely enslaving his People, and reducing the Circumstances of the Nobility. He added Mortification to Dejection, and Cruelty to Injustice.

Vanity is the general Foible, and Pride the universal Passion of that Nation. This Prince had his Mind as strongly infected with these Diseases, as those of any of his Subjects could possibly have been. He had strong natural Parts, and, what are generally their Attendants,

extreme violent Passions, which produced the more from the entire want of Education.

Not to be out done in any Thing he takes is the darling Ambition of a Prince, which in laudable Pursuits would be an and glorious Emulation; but it is exerted by them in insignificant and Points, of which Instances might be that would expose them to the severest

King John had in his Composition a Portion of this Quality; he was ambitious of high Consideration in the of *Europe*, and therefore spared neither of Expence nor Expenditure for attaining that End. He had a Passion for Building also, in which he lavish'd away immense Sums of Money, often opposed and harrassed his People with the execution of Works of no Utility; and particularly in that of *Mafra*, which was extremely expensive, and must be for ever burdensome. He was no less delighted with Church and therefore madly undertook to equal the priestly Grandeur in *Lisbon*, equal to *Rome*; where he was such a Negligent in religious Matters, that he is said to have expended above thirty-six Millions of Money in purchasing Licencies to indulge him in these Matters; and his famous procession of *Corpus Christi* he so aggravated to make it expensive almost beyond

With all these Forms of Expence and others so inutile, it may be conceived his (which is calculated to have been three and a half Sterling annually) allowed little Scope for gratifying his Nobility had any such Disposition, which indeed it was not; or for rewarding or encouraging Worth or Merit of any Kind. But to mention another extravagant Humour he indulged for a considerable Space of which was that of collecting of Curiosities from all Parts of the World with which he had quite filled the Palace of *Braganza*, where they were all

Migration that succeeded the late

in Coaches and Six, which before that Time had been what they were generally seen in.

all the national Accession of Wealth from their Gold and Diamond Mines in his Reign, which of Course greatly the Value of Money in that as well as the Nations of Europe, he made the of those who served him greater than before, by not augmenting in the Salaries of his Court Officers, or the his Soldiery, all of whom, the Secre- of State excepted, were on no better ment than what the Crown could put his most distressed Circumstances at the of the Revolution, when they were ly exerting their whole Might for the ment of their Independency.

stripped of their Authority, the No- and no Gratification left them to indulge, which arose from the Dignity of their which they pinched themselves in o- ments to grace with a little exterior Splen- Even many of the highest Employ- the State were taken from them, and the Judges, who were become scanda- rrupters of the Law, and the Intro- of every Species of Iniquity into Prac-

poor as the Nobility's Satisfaction re- to be, in a little Pomp of Appearance, Keeping of their Families irreproacha- Degeneracy from making unworthy s, they were soon deprived, in a good of one of these Enjoyments. For Majesty had taken it into his Head to Palace Chapel into a Cathedral and al Church, he established three Orders aries in it, with such large Revenues, a Parade of Pomp, as quite eclipsed re that the secular Grandees of the could pretend to make: Upon which remained for them but to cover their ation with an affected Contempt of e, by very seldom appearing afterwards

This was indeed but an Evil of the Imagina- tion, but they were soon after made to suffer a real Misfortune. The Crown owed them a considerable Debt, the Interest of which was an entailed Inheritance to their Families, and in some of them it was almost the only Inheri- tance they had. The Payment of this Interest was of a sudden arbitrarily stopped; but the Principal, they were told, should be paid them, whenever they could find free Lands for safe Investure, according to Intailure. This it was impossible for them to do, as the Church had before engrossed all Lands that did not belong to the Crown, or were already entailed in noble Families. So that many of these Families by these Means, became reduced to a State of extreme Indigence; and so con- tinue.—*Behold ye giddy and unthinking Votaries of Vanity, ye blind Abettors of the unreasona- ble Pretensions of Kings, to what an Abyss of Miseries unworthy Subserviencies lead, and what a Destroyer ye establish in unlimited Power.*

But during the long Sickness that John labour'd under before his Death, a Favourite Franciscan Friar of the House of Gouvea be- came in Effect Minister of State; who being himself born a Nobleman, had so much Re- gard for the Order as to endeavour its Service, and accordingly he did find Means to get some of the great Offices again bestowed among them, as is still continued to be done. But they are too few to gratify a tenth Part of those who have a Right to be provided for, and the Salaries of the best of them are but extremely insignificant.

His present Portuguese Majesty succeeded to the Crown on the 31st of July 1750, be- ing the Festival of St. Ignatius de Loyala, Founder of the Order of Jesuits; to which Fraternity his Government seems to be so far from promising to prove propitious, that, on

the contrary, it appears to menace them with at least much Humiliation.

His Majesty had been but a little while on the Throne before he order'd thirteen of the Nobles into Confinement, for much the same Offence as that for which his Father had punished so many of their Order. Their Chastisement, however, was but of short Duration. He afterwards banished some others for Freedoms of Speech that were deemed licentious.

He is allowed to be a Prince of great natural Goodness of Heart, and of a Temper so remarkably even, that it's said, he never spoke a hasty Word to any one about him in his Life. Yet in his public Conduct there have not been wanting Proofs of his resolute Perseverance even to Rigour. But this may be judged more the Effect of Council than of his natural Disposition, as it is certain, that the Minister who has found Means to engross his Confidence, is of as daring a Spirit, as he is of an enterprizing Genius.

There are two Schemes which seem to be the darling ones of this Reign, which, for their succeeding, seem wholly incompatible with each other. These are to increase the Despotism of Government, and establish an extensive Commerce; Points of such a Contrariety in their Natures, that all human Endeavours to cement them in lasting Union must of Necessity prove ineffectual.

But blindly bigotted and superstitious as this Court is solicitous to keep their People in religious Matters, in order the easier to reconcile them to absolute Civil Domination, they have at least discover'd that they don't want the Discernment to see what an Incumbrance on them religious Communities and their Endowments are, and have accordingly wisely resolved to ease themselves of these Loads, as soon and as much as possible. With this View an Edict was issued about a Year before the

Earthquake happened, ordering a to deliver in Lists of the Estates previously bequeathed to them, since the Promulgation of an antient Law for restraining of Lands in *Mortmain*; and also for procuring the Revocation of all Charters or Establishments of the Convents, to shew how much the Nobles and Communities had been increased since the respective Institutions. This it may be thought greatly alarmed these religious Orders. But the great Rancour was fermented in the Hearts of the Government. But the great Calamity soon after befel the Nation, put a stop to these Proceedings; tho' it cannot be thought that the Administration have lost Sight of their Objects, or that the Parties attacked are eased of their Fears; so that these Bodies must be supposed to be still Enemies to the Government.

About the same Time there was a strong Attack made on the Jesuits, who had engrossed a great Part of the Commerce of the Country of *Marranham*, by establishing a Company for the sole carrying on of the Trade, and by depriving the Jesuits of the Jurisdiction they had usurped in that Country. The End in this Scheme was undoubtedly a good one, but the Means applied for the accomplishment of it were extremely exorbitant. The erecting of Monopolies in all Countries must be, hateful Measures in all Countries, and in Matters of Commerce, and the erecting of Companies, they are in their natures restrictive, and of Necessity hurtful.

Against this Establishment, therefore, there were great Murmurings in the Nation, particularly among the mercantile Part of the People. This the Court foresaw, and dreaded an Interposition, that it was forbidden in the Law issued for erecting a Company, to make any Remonstrance touching it. However, there was a Board existing in the Kingdom that was constitutional, consisting of Merchants acting for the Title for PUBLIC GOOD; and who of

their exprefs Duty to make all Representations for that Purpose. This confifted of Merchants, and at Men the moft refpectable for Character of any of their Order Kingdom: Who, conceiving the Representation ought not to be confining to their Body, did venture a very long and weighty Remon- ftrance againft this Eftablifhment, and offer'd to prevent it that might be fairly faid agreeable: Upon which they were with their Solicitor and Advocate, admitted feparately to clofe Imprifon- ment they were confined for a confi- dable Time, and then order'd into Banifh- ment, which moft of them were already in the Earthquake happen'd. But the one who was one of thofe that remained in order to be transported into Exile from the Kingdom, was killed by the falling of the Building in that unhappy Difaster. The others were included in the general Pardon granted it.

The Treatment of fo worthy a Body was juftly deemed an Excefs of Ri- gour, and offenfive to the Nation, and dif- agreeable to the Government. However, the Board was new regulated by the Crown, and appointed new Members to fit at it; the former Poffeffors of thofe Seats had the Privilege of making their own choice of a certain Number of Perfons in the Room of thofe who went out, by Rotation, every Year. The new Board, it may be fupposed, was formed of People who made it a mere Inftrument of Tyranny. Thus has the laft Pillar of Privilege fallen down in that Kingdom.

Our Author, who feems to have no unerring Clue to unravel the My- ftery of this Conſpiracy. He has ſhewn what the Nobility has ſuffer'd both in the preſent Reign, a Treatment the moſt cruel and cutting to them, as they ſeem

to have higher Notions of Honour and their own Dignity, than any other People in the World. He has told us what Rebuffs the Je- ſuits have met with in their ambitious Projects, Set of Men whoſe conſtant Maxim it is, never to let an Affront go unrevenge'd. Their re- ligious Communities have been threaten'd with an Inſpection of their Revenues, which was enough to rouse the whole Swarm of Wafps that harbour in theſe Nests of Luxury and Idleneſs. The Merchants have been greatly diſguſted by an Infringement of their Privileges. When all theſe Things are weigh'd in the Bal- lance of Reaſon, one may eaſily judge from what Quarter the Demon of Sedition let out, where ſhe has ranged, and what muſt be the Fruit of theſe poiſonous and deſtructive Seeds ſhe has ſown in every Corner of the Land; nor need we be at a Loſs to ſeek for the Source and Original of that Conſpiracy for which ſo many have already ſuffer'd, and many more, in all Probability, will feel the Effects of.

The Behaviour and Practices of the Jeſuits from their firſt Inſtitution to this Time.

AS it appears thro' the whole Courſe of theſe Proceedings, that the Jeſuits have been the chief Advifers and Fomenters of this Conſpiracy againſt the King of Portugal, I am apt to think, that a general Review of their Character and Conduct from their firſt Inſtitution to within a few Years of the preſent Time, will not be diſagreeable to a Proteſtant Reader; and this I am enabled to do, from a Diſcourſe published about thirty Years ago, entitled, *The Hiſtory of the Riſe, Progreſs, and Prac- tices of the Jeſuits*. Thus the Author writes.

Ignatius Loyola, a Spaniſh Gentleman, was the Founder of the Society of Jeſus, now call'd Jeſuits. He obtain'd an Approbation of his Order by two Bulls from Pope Paul III. one dated in 1540, and the other in 1543. As ſoon as the Society was approved by the Pope, they began to ſpread over all the Kingdoms of the

the Earth, into which *Ignatius* sent his Fellow-Labourers, while he fix'd his own Residence at *Rome*, from whence he govern'd his whole Order. It is astonishing how the *Jesuits* multiplied in a short Space of Time. In the Year 1556, at the Death of *Ignatius*, they had twelve great Provinces; so they call their different Districts. In 1608, *Rabadeneira* reckons twenty-nine Provinces, and two Vice-Provinces. Those Provinces were dispersed up and down over all the Kingdoms of *Europe*; in *Asia* from the *Mediterranean* to the Extremities of *China*, in *North* and *South America*. Even *Africa* was not free from them; for they formerly had Footing in *Æthiopia*.

In 1553 (that is to say seven Years after their Institution) they obtain'd Letters from *Henry II* of *France*, by Means of the Cardinal of *Lorain*, to be received in that Kingdom, with Liberty to teach in *Paris*, but not elsewhere. Four or five Years after, they presented those Letters of Admission to the Parliament of *Paris*, who from the very Beginning had no better Opinion of those *Spanish* Missionaries than they have at present. The Parliament order'd those Letters to be communicated to *M. de Bellay*, Bishop of *Paris*, and also to the Faculty of Divinity. Upon this Occasion, the University publish'd that famous Decree, which may well be call'd a Sort of Prophecy, and which we now see completely fulfill'd. In that Decree the *Jesuits* are declared to be dangerous in Matters of Faith; likely to trouble the Quiet of the Church; to overthrow the monastic State; and to pervert rather than edify.

However, the Obstacles, which the *Jesuits* met with from the Parliament, the Bishop, and the University, did not discourage them in the least; but rather made them more active. They follow'd their Game so close, that they obtained Letters from *Francis II* to the Parliament, ordering them to pass the necessary Acts for confirming the Establishment of the Society in the Kingdom. To engage the Parliament

to grant them what they so much desir'd to submit themselves to the Law, and to renounce all Privileges granted them by the See of *Rome*, which was contrary to the Authority of the Cures, Colleges, and Universities of the Kingdom; to the Customs and Liberties of the *Gallican* Church; and to the Agreement between the *French* Kings and the *Papal* See.

Nevertheless, the Parliament made by which the Question, whether this Decree should be approved, or rejected, was refer'd to a General Council, or to any other of the *Gallican* Church. This was a great Victory which the *Jesuits* could obtain from that Court.

But the Cardinal *de Tournon* bestir'd himself at last, so powerfully in the Council of *Poissy*, that the Assembly of the Parliament received them upon Condition that they should take another Name, instead of that of the *Society of Jesus*, because that Name was look'd upon to be too proud and ambitious.

As soon as the *Jesuits* open'd the College of *Clermont*, which had been given them by *Liam du Pratt*, Bishop of *Clermont*, they took down the great Gate *Collegium Societatis*. They have since taken away that Gate and put up another in the Place of the *Collegium Ludovici magni*; upon which their Scholars made the following Distich.

Subtulit hinc Jesum, posuitque Infrons
Impia Gens; alium non colit illa Deum

Thus Englished.

Jesum the wicked *Jesuits* withdrew
And plac'd their King, the only one they knew.

The Rector of the University, in the Name of the whole Body, interdicted them from teaching; upon which, the *Jesuits* presented a Petition to the Faculty, to be admitted to teach with them, and the Affair was brought

Two celebrated Advocates, *Piquet* for the University, and *Peter* for the *Jesuits*, pleaded the Cause with great Eloquence as Warmth. *Baptist*, the King's Advocate, concluded the Society. Nevertheless, it was thought the *Jesuits* might, at that Time, be serviceable to the Church, and the State, against the *Huguenots*, whose Doctrine had put the Kingdom in Agitation; and upon that those Fathers were permitted to teach publicly. This Affair was transacted in the Regency of *Charles IX*, in 1564.

The *Jesuits* enjoy'd this Permission, without Interruption, until 1594, when the University began to pursue them again. The Faculty knew very well that the Parliament look'd upon them, at that Time, as the Emissaries of Spain, and as Men much properer to sow Division in the Kingdom in Favour of the *Spaniards*, than to defend the *Roman Catholic Religion* against the *Huguenots*. Accordingly the University presented a Memorial to that Assembly, setting forth, "That the Disorders which had been occasion'd by a certain Order, originally from *Spain*, and the Places where they were, who assumed to themselves the Qualification of the Name of *Jesus*; that Order had all along, but especially since the Troubles, shew'd themselves partial in Favour of the *Spaniards*, and Encouragers and Followers of the *Spanish Faction*; a Thing, which the Parliament had foreseen from the beginning, and remarkably foretold in the Decree of the Faculty of Divinity; that the Society should break thro' all Order and Decency in Church and State."—The Order was farther represented. "That the Society thirty Years ago, when they had not been in the other Towns of *France*, had presented a Petition to be incorporated in the University, the Affair was appointed in which it was order'd that Things should remain in the Condition, in which they were at that Time; that they were not satisfied with the Order; but, what is more, inter-

meddled with the Affairs of the State; and made use of the Spies and Ministers of *Spain* for that Purpose, as has been notorious to all the World; that the Order of Council not having been follow'd, nor even the Pleadings on both Sides withdrawn, it had no Manner of Effect. They therefore pray'd the Parliament to drive this *Sett* not only out of the University, but out of the whole Kingdom of *France*, and requested the Concurrence of the Procurator General.

The Petition was answer'd, and the *Jesuits* were immediately summon'd. The *Cures* of *Paris* join'd the University, and were receiv'd Plaintiffs against the Society. They complain'd that the *Jesuits* had invaded their Functions, and disturbed all the Ecclesiastical Hierarchy. They chose *Lewis Dole* for their Advocate. *Claudius Duret* was Advocate for the *Jesuits*, and *M. Anthony Arnould* pleaded for the University. While this Affair was depending, *Jean Chastel*, a Scholar in the above-mention'd College of *Clermont*, stabb'd *Henry the Great* with a Knife, on the 27th of *December*, 1594; whereupon the Parliament condemned *Chastel* to be executed as a Traitor and a Parricide; and all the *Jesuits*, of what Degree soever, as Corrupters of Youth, as Disturbers of the public Peace, and as Enemies to the King and Kingdom, to quit *Paris*, and the respective Places of their Abode in three Days, and *France* entirely in fifteen. Their Goods and Effects, moveable and immoveable, to be confiscated and disposed of in charitable Uses, according as the Parliament should direct, and if any of the *Jesuits* should presume to stay after the Time limited for their Removal, they were to be punish'd as Traytors. This Arret was dated the 29th of *December*, 1594; and follow'd by others of the same Nature, the 21st of *August*, the 16th of *October*, 1597, the 18th of *August*, 1598, and also by an Arret of the Privy Council in 1587, notwithstanding the strenuous Sollicitations of the Court of *Rome* by the Cardinals *Ossat* and *Perron*. But the *Pope* persisting not to be reconcil'd to the King

King until his Majesty re-establish'd the *Jesuits* in *France*; they return'd thither again, where they have continued to do Mischief enough ever since. For your further Satisfaction in this Affair, you may consult the Letters of those Cardinals, the Notes upon *Philotanus*, and the Censures and Conclusions of the Faculty of Divinity at *Paris*.

Upon the whole we may observe, that the *Jesuits*, from their first Institution to the present Time; have been exactly uniform in their Principles and Practices; always proud and haughty; subtle and malicious; Disturbers of the Peace, both public and private, in Church and State; litigious and revengeful; impatient of Opposition; fraudulent and deceitful; without Charity or Humanity; biting Usurers and avaricious Bankers; large Traders and Monopolizers in Commerce. Yet all these Iniquities are cover'd with the hypocritical Veil of Self-Mortification, and affected Piety. Is it possible that the Heart of Man should be made such a Sink of Sin, such a Dunghill of the foulest Passions to ingender in, such a Receptacle for the most infamous Vices to blend and coalesce, without the least Room for the Fear of God or

Man? But what makes their Crime blackest Dye, and raises one's Indignation to the highest Pitch, is, that they show themselves to be the Directors of the Conscience and the surest Guides to Heaven?

The last Accounts we receiv'd (which went to Press) concerning this Affair, are from *Paris* and *Rome*. From *Paris* it was said that on the 4th of *February*, the Father *Desmaretz* his Confessor, who had been sent from *Lisbon*? None, Sire, replied *Jesuit*. Then I will tell you, replied the King, *Three of your Brethren are hanged*.

From *Rome*, the last Letters say that *Maigo de Mallo*, the *Portuguese* Minister, represented to his Holiness, that 16,000 of Arms had been found in some of the Convents; which Fact was confirmed by the Letters of the Nuncio *Accejuoli*, and such an Impression, that it is thought Cardinal *Francis Albani* will decline the present holds of being their Protector. Word, their Affairs have as dark a prospect as can be.

F I N I S.